

**IN THE CLAIMS AMEND**

~~Claim 3, line 1~~

Delete "or 2".

~~Claim 7, line 1~~

Delete "one of claims 3 to 6" and insert -- claim 3 --.

~~Claim 11, line 1~~

Delete "one of claims 3 to 10" and insert -- claim 3 --.

~~Claim 12, line 1~~

Delete "or 2".

~~Claim 16, line 1~~

Delete "one of claims 12 to 15" and insert -- claim 12 --.

~~Claim 18, line 1~~

Delete "one of the preceding claims" and insert -- claim 1 --.

~~Claim 21, line 1~~

Delete "one of the preceding claims" and insert -- claim 1 --.

~~Claim 22, line 1~~

Delete "one of the preceding claims" and insert -- claim 1 --.

~~Claim 24, line 1~~

Delete "one of claims 1 to 21" and insert -- claim 1 --.

**REMARKS**

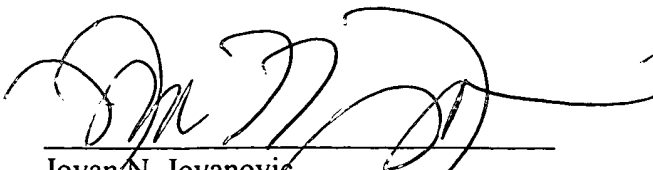
Upon entry of the above amendment, Applicant submits that the application should be in condition for substantive examination.

Should anything further be required, a telephone call to the undersigned, at (312) 578-0400, is respectfully invited.

Respectfully submitted,

FACTOR & PARTNERS, LLC

Dated: January 5, 2001

  
Jovan N. Jovanovic  
One of Attorneys for Applicant